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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Items 20 (d), 24, 29, 46 and 166 of the preliminary list*

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for peace and security

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 19 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit the text of an appeal by the Heads of State of the States members of the Central Asian Economic Community on the situation in Afghanistan, adopted on 14 June 2000 at Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, under agenda items 20 (d), 24, 29, 46 and 166 of the preliminary list, and as a document of the Security Council.

* A/55/50.

00-48948 (E) 210600 210600

(*Signed*) M. B. **Jarbussynova**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) E. S. **Ibraimova**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) R. K. **Alimov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) A. V. **Vohidov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 19 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal by the Heads of State of States members of the Central Asian Economic Community on the situation in Afghanistan

The Heads of State of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan,

Expressing deep concern about the escalation of military and political confrontation in Afghanistan, which continues to cause enormous suffering, destruction and senseless sacrifices,

Emphasizing that the Afghan conflict has today developed into a serious global problem and turned the country into a training ground for various kinds of terrorist extremist groups and a centre for the distribution of narcotic substances, trafficking in weapons and organized crime,

Pointing out that the enormous illegal proceeds of the drug trade are being used for the unlawful acquisition of weapons and thereby for the continuation of the senseless fratricidal war,

Noting that all this is creating a serious threat to security, in particular for the countries of Central Asia, and distracting them from their efforts to speed up the processes of democratization and economic reform,

Reaffirming that there is no military solution to the crisis in Afghanistan,

Expressing regret that the peacekeeping efforts of the United Nations, the regional organizations and individual countries to promote negotiations between the opposing parties in Afghanistan have not yet achieved positive results,

Emphasizing that the solution to the conflict situation in Afghanistan must be found only within the framework of the elaboration of measures for the establishment of a stable peace and the creation of a widely representative government taking into account the interests of all ethnic, political and religious groups without intervention from outside,

Appeal to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the States which are permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations to use their influence and authority and all the resources available to them to bring about a speedy and just settlement of the Afghan conflict with a view to putting a stop to the sufferings of the people of Afghanistan and maintaining regional and international security.

For the Republic of Kazakhstan
(*Signed*) N. **Nazarbaev**

For the Kyrgyz Republic
(*Signed*) A. **Akaev**

For the Republic of Tajikistan
(*Signed*) E. **Rakhmonov**

For the Republic of Uzbekistan
(*Signed*) I. **Karimov**

Dushanbe, 14 June 2000.

United Nations A/55/87

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 June 2000
English
Original: English/Russian

Fifty-fifth session
Item 74 of the preliminary list*
General and complete disarmament

Letter dated 15 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text (in English and Russian) of the joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United States of America on principles of strategic stability signed in Moscow on 4 June 2000 (see annex).

We would be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly under item 74 of the preliminary list.

(*Signed*) Sergei **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Richard **Holbrooke**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations

* A/55/50.

00-49283 (E) 220600

Annex to the letter dated 15 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United States of America on principles of strategic stability

1. The Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United States of America agree on the need to maintain strategic nuclear stability. Agreements between them help accomplish this objective.

2. They are dedicated to the cause of strengthening strategic stability and international security. They agree that capability for deterrence has been and remains a key aspect of stability and predictability in the international security environment.

3. The Presidents, welcoming the ratification of the START-II Treaty and related documents by the Russian Federation, look forward to the completion of the ratification process in the United States.

4. They announce that discussions will intensify on further reductions in the strategic forces of the Russian Federation and the United States within the framework of a future START-III Treaty, and on ABM issues, in accordance with the Moscow Statement of 1998 and the Cologne Statement of 1999 by the Presidents.

5. They agree on the essential contribution of the ABM Treaty to reductions in offensive forces, and reaffirm their commitment to that Treaty as a cornerstone of strategic stability.

6. They agree that the international community faces a dangerous and growing threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, including missiles and missile technologies, and stress their desire to reverse that process, including through existing and possible new international legal mechanisms. They agree that this new threat represents a potentially significant change in the strategic situation and international security environment.

7. They agree that this emerging threat to security should be addressed and resolved through mutual cooperation and mutual respect of each other's security interests.

8. They recall the existing provision of the ABM Treaty to consider possible changes in the strategic situation that have a bearing on the provisions of the Treaty, and, as appropriate, to consider possible proposals for further increasing the viability of the Treaty.

9. The Presidents reaffirm their commitment to continuing efforts to strengthen the ABM Treaty and to enhancing its viability and effectiveness in the future, taking into account any changes in the international security environment.

10. In reinforcing the effectiveness of the ABM Treaty under present and prospective conditions, the Russian Federation and the United States of America

attach great importance to enhancing the viability of the Treaty through measures to promote greater cooperation, openness and trust between the sides.

11. The Russian Federation and the United States of America note the importance of the consultative process and reaffirm their determination to continue consultations in the future to promote the objectives and implementation of the provisions of the ABM Treaty.

12. The key provisions recorded in our agreements and statements, including at the highest level, create a basis for both countries' activities regarding strategic arms under present-day conditions.

13. Such an approach creates confidence that the further strengthening of strategic stability and further reductions in nuclear forces will be based on a foundation that has been tested over decades and advances both countries' interests and security.

14. The Presidents have directed the development of concrete measures that would allow both sides to take necessary steps to preserve strategic stability in the face of new threats, and have called on their ministers and experts to prepare a report for review by the Presidents.

15. They agree that issues of strategic offensive arms cannot be considered in isolation from issues of strategic defensive arms and vice versa — an interrelationship that is reflected in the ABM Treaty and aims to ensure equally the security of the two countries.

16. The Russian Federation and the United States of America intend to base their activities in the area of strategic offensive and defensive arms on the principles set forth in this document.

The President of the Russian Federation
(*Signed*) Vladimir V. **Putin**

The President of the United States of America
(*Signed*) William J. **Clinton**

Moscow
4 June 2000

United Nations A/55/88

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Items 74 and 81 of the preliminary list*

General and complete disarmament

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Letter dated 21 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith the text of a statement made on 17 June 2000 by V. V. Putin, President of the Russian Federation, on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use during War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on Their Destruction (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly under items 74 and 81 of the preliminary list.

(*Signed*) S. **Lavrov**

* A/55/50.

00-49238 (E) 210600 210600

Annex to the letter dated 21 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement made by the President of the Russian Federation, V. V. Putin, on 17 June 2000

The international community is celebrating two important events this year — the seventy-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use during War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (Geneva Protocol of 1925) and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on Their Destruction.

These multilateral instruments play an important role in the international security system. Our country unreservedly subscribes to the provisions and principles contained therein. On 22 May 2000, a draft federal law was submitted to the State Duma concerning the withdrawal of the reservations made by the Soviet Union in 1928 concerning the Geneva Protocol.

We trust that the other States parties will also rigorously implement the provisions of these instruments.

The Russian Federation, as a depositary country, is resolutely in favour of the establishment of an effective mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on Their Destruction and is actively involved in the negotiations on the elaboration of a protocol with a view to strengthening and improving the Convention.